MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
950 THIRD AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

I want to share in the work of the private citizens' organization that has done so much to perpetuate the wonders of Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary. Enclosed find $..... for the class of membership I have checked. Please send **Audubon** magazine to which I am entitled:

MEMBERSHIP:

Student	$13.50
Senior Citizen, Indiv.	$13.50
Senior Citizen, Family	$15.00
Individual	$18.00
Family	$21.00
Sustaining	$30.00
Supporting	$50.00
Contributing	$100.00
Donor	$250.00
Life	$1,000.00
Dual Life	$1,500.00

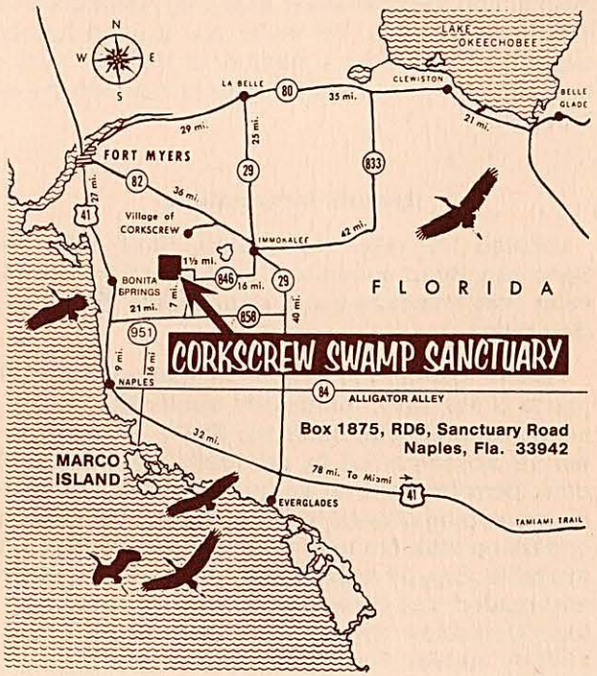
Name.....
(please print)

Address.....

City..... State.....

Zip Code.....

C543



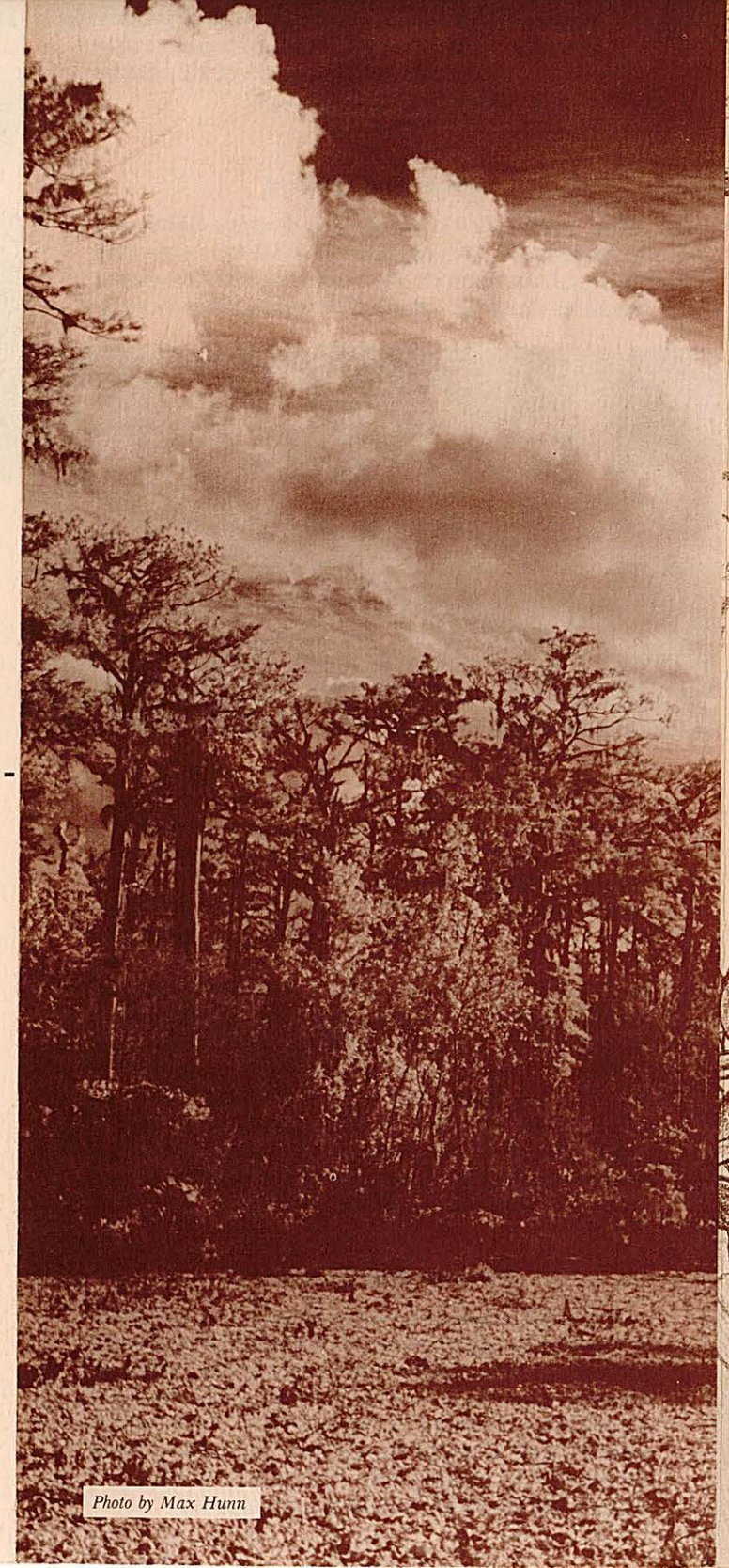


Photo by Max Hunn

CORKSCREW SWAMP SANCTUARY

Owned and Maintained by the National Audubon Society

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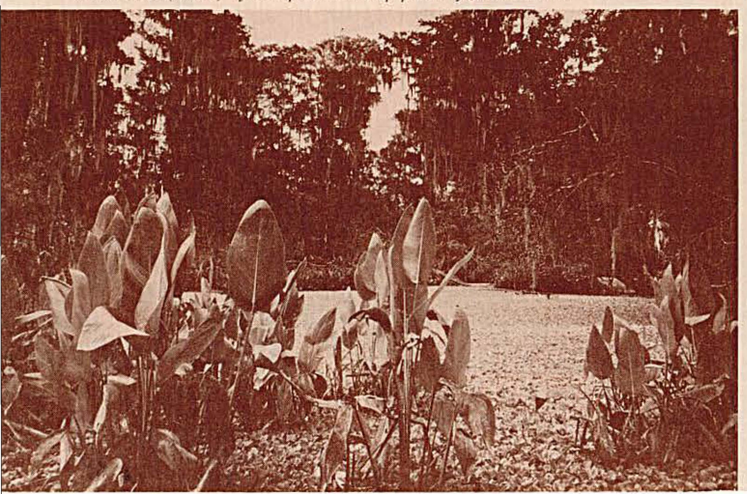
THE CORKSCREW SWAMP
. . . a wilderness sanctuary

The National Audubon Society's Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary contains one of the largest stands of mature bald cypress trees in the nation. Many of these towering giants are nearly 500 years old and shelter a lush tangle of vines, air plants, shrubs, and aquatic plants so impenetrable that until a few years ago most people were quite content to leave the swamp to the alligators. In the mid-fifties, even this inaccessible wilderness was threatened with logging, drainage, and development. Conservationists then stepped in and purchased it to be maintained as a wildlife sanctuary.

A visit to Corkscrew is an experience that cannot be duplicated elsewhere. Today, you can stroll through a natural cathedral formed by giant bald cypress trees on a boardwalk loop 1¾ miles long and enjoy an unforgettable remnant of an undisturbed primeval forest. An illustrated self-guiding tour booklet describes the native plants and animals that may be seen, and members of the staff are on hand to answer questions and explain the relationships between water, wildlife, and man.

This is not a place to feed wildlife, and those in quest of captive animals on display will not find them. Otters may romp and play on the boardwalk, or may remain completely hidden. Bobcats will certainly be aware of your presence, but you probably will not see them. Alligators ranging from a few inches to several feet in length may or may not be conspicuous. Wood storks could be nesting, depending on the time of year, weather, water level, and reasons known only to wood storks.Seasonal changes reflect the special characteristics of a cypress swamp. The rainy, hu-

Wood stork (above) by Al Spicer. Swamp photo by Jack Holmes



mid, and quiet summer, lush with sub-tropical vegetation, is a contrast to the frantic activity of the nesting season from December through April.

Water and Wildlife

The water level in Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary fluctuates each year as much as 4½ feet between the rainy and dry seasons. Fish and other small aquatic creatures reproduce during the wet summer months,

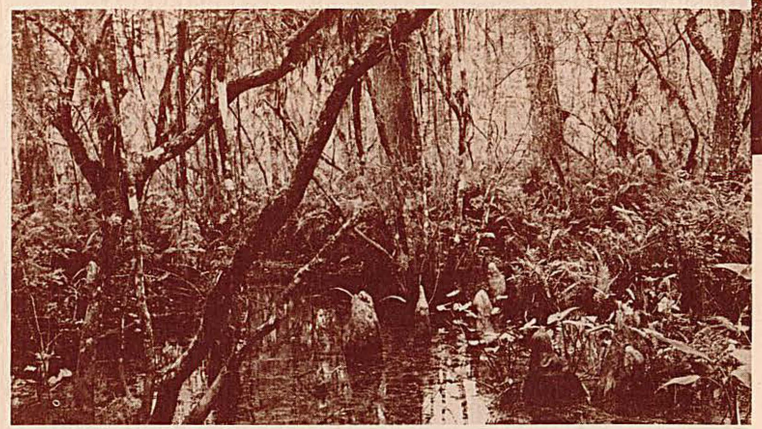


Photo by George Porter

when the water level is rising. Birds, mammals, and other larger predators, however, reproduce during the dry season, the winter months, when the water level is dropping and concentrating food. Until the late 1950s, thousands of wood storks usually nested successfully in the tops of the cypress trees. But recently, massive drainage and development projects in southern Florida have so altered the surface water supply that the natural hydroperiod or span of inundation has been drastically shortened. Because of the resulting loss in feeding territory, many forms of wildlife have decreased in number, and fewer wood storks have nested successfully. Nevertheless, Corkscrew Swamp's watershed remains relatively undisturbed, and the sanctuary still has the largest colony of wood storks in the country.

Ecology and Economics

The list of those who have helped save Corkscrew is too long to record here, but it is headed by Barron Collier Jr., Isabel Collier Read, and the Lee Tidewater Cypress Company. A matching grant by the Ford Foundation initiated a fund-raising drive which saved 2,640 acres of the swamp. There have been thousands of smaller gifts from people wanting to assure the future of this unique wilderness.

Photo courtesy Harry Brevoort

Currently, the sanctuary encompasses approximately 11,000 acres. But no wilderness can be completely secure in the face of the enormous pressures that have resulted from southern Florida being one of the country's fastest-growing areas. Any major changes in the watershed would damage the entire flora and fauna of the sanctuary. What the next threat may be, we do not know; we only ask that the friends of Corkscrew be actively interested in protecting the cypress swamp and its extraordinary wildlife. Your admission fee will help in many ways: by maintaining the boardwalk, financing research, and improving facilities. We invite you to lend further support by becoming a member of National Audubon Society. A membership blank is included in this brochure.

General Information

Located 1½ miles from County Road 846. The Sanctuary Road entrance (County Road 849) is 14 miles from Immokalee and 21 miles from Route 41. (See map.)

Visitors' Center and boardwalk trail open from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. daily. Admission: adults, $3.12; high school and college students, $1.04; children under 12 accompanied by an adult, free. Food and drink permitted only at the picnic tables. No overnight camping allowed within sanctuary boundaries or parking area. No pets admitted. Wheelchairs are available. Groups may request, in advance, a naturalist-guided tour by writing to the Resident Naturalist, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Route 6, Box 1875-A, Naples, Florida 33942 or by calling (813) 657-3771.